

# Woodchuck Chatter

The Newsletter of Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

An Affiliate of American Association of Woodturners

Website: [WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org](http://WWW.WOODCHUCKSVT.org)



November 10, 2021

Volume 18 Number 11

## Remote Meeting November 17, 2021

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Tune in about 7:00 PM. The subject of the meeting—and be ready to give your two bits worth—is “Finishing”. We will talk about getting a good surface, and what kinds of coatings we use and why.

There will be no meeting in December—enjoy the holidays.

This is a good time to renew your membership. Checks (\$25.00 per member) should be made out to “WTNV” and sent to: Brad Jackson, 14 Rustic Drive, Essex, VT 05452

## Hybrid Meeting 10/20/2021



There were about 30 Woodchucks in person at the meeting, and about 4 Zoomed in. The connection was much improved with only a few “freezes” during presentations.

Jay announced the result of the election:

President, Harvie Porter  
Vice President, Dave Buchholz  
Secretary, Gary Walz  
Treasurer, Brad Jackson  
Newsletter Editor, Andy Duling

Members-At-Large, Tom Dunne, Bob Martin, Arny Spahn.

Jay remains as Past President.

Jay announced that, because of his dedication to Woodchucks, putting together “Chatter” for 18 years, Arny Spahn was made an Honorary Life Member.

Show & Tell: Karen Wilson showed some of her recent small bowls. Dave B.. showed some of his composite woven bowls. Elsa Oppenheimer (Bosma) also showed some recent bowls. Russ showed an insulated mug of Black Locust.

Tom Dunne showed some work using roots from various trees, including some of Yew which turn red when exposed to air.

Demo: Russ showed various methods for sharpening gouges, concentrating on using jigs to assure consistent grinds.

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### Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont Board of Directors

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Past President and Web Master  
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22 Cobble Hill Meadows  
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[tjaybailey@yahoo.com](mailto:tjaybailey@yahoo.com)

We are having a large turnover in our Woodchuck Board this year. The President's chair becomes Harvie Porter's. The Secretary's chair becomes Gary Walz's, and the Treasurer's chair becomes Brad Jackson's. And, finally, the Newsletter Editor's chair becomes Andy Duling's.

Dave Buchholz, Jay Bailey as Past President, Bob Martin, and Arny Spahn stay on the Board, lending some stability, and Tom Dunne takes one of the At-Large seats.

We do not have a permanent Winter home for meetings yet, and the calendar right now is blank. I look at the present situation as an opportunity for the Club to evolve.

We ended last year with 77 paid members and 8 Honorary Life members, many of whom continue to provide input from time to time. The challenge is to keep all those members by providing content for them. While we did have good in-person meetings, the format must shift to primarily remote meetings until we find a winter home. Even then, we need to sharpen up our ability to send video over a Zoom link. There are folks here in Vermont and in New York who would find it difficult to travel to that new facility.

I found two problems with the October Zoom portion of the meeting. We really need a camera operator to keep the camera on the important parts of the action. We need a computer operator as well to switch cameras when needed.

The other problem is sound. I guess we need two mics, one on the demonstrator and one parabolic mic to focus on anyone in the audience who is asking or answering a question. At the last meeting, we at home missed a lot of the conversation. It would also help if the demonstrator repeated what was said by the audience so we at home could hear.

This is truly a learning process, so please take my remarks as intended to be constructive.

In my shop, I'm doing some turning designated for our Morgan Orchards craft show. My personal mission is to make my skills better. That implies that I need to use the same tools time again and get better using them. For bowls, I favor a 5/8" PN bowl gouge for the exterior and a Woodpecker round carbide tool for the interior, finishing off with a 5/8" bowl gouge ground at about 80 degrees as a bottoming tool. I use a random-orbit powered sander with Klingspor discs up to 600-grit for finishing and either a Tung oil or a diluted spar varnish for coating most bowls.

For spindle turning I use a 3/8 PN detail spindle gouge mostly, with a Woodpecker carbide tool for some details. I have a series of strip sanding papers from 150 to 800 grit, and I usually finish with CA glue and final sanding and polishing with headlight cleaner.

I will experiment sometimes with different effects, like grooving on my work or using colored pens to brighten some aspects. Maybe I will get brave and try some carving on my turnings.

I did get used to carving when I made that big sign for our Rotary property, but that's not the kind of carving wanted for small turned objects.

The trouble with elaborate work on wood is that it consumes a lot of time and concentration. When I think of pricing that kind of work for sale, I wonder if I have an audience with deep enough pockets.

Back to my theme of looking at change in our Club: Andy has a big opportunity to make "Chatter" his own. I have given him a template which he can use, or he can go in any direction he likes.

I hope that you, the members, will have things to give Andy from time to time so he doesn't have to spend too much time staring at a blank screen.

Thanks for all the encouragement you have given me over the last 18 years as Editor.

Arny

**Balance forward**

4457.42

## INCOME

Dues	25.00
Raffle	58.00
Donation	8.00
CA glue	0
<u>Anchor Seal</u>	<u>17.00</u>
	108.00

## EXPENSES

<u>Zoom</u>	<u>15.89</u>
	15.89

Cash on Hand	25.00
Bank Balance ending	4524.53

Brad Jackson/Treasurer

*Reminder: Unless you have paid your annual dues by April 1st your name must be removed from the discount list.*

The Board of Directors of The Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2021**:

Jay Bailey, Ron Bauer, Wayne Beauchemin, Ted Beebe, Dale Bergdahl, Chris Bishop, Brad Blaisdell, Jodi Blaisdell,

Robert Bouvier, Bill Breen, Dave Buchholz, James Bushey, Richard Butz, George Cacchio, Sara Campbell, Sal Chiarelli, Charles Cieri, Janet Collins, Mike Deweese, Brad Dinwiddie, Karen Drennen, Greg Drew, Andy Duling, Tom Dunne, Argie Economou, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Joe Fortin, Toby Fulwiler, Joe Gaines, Barry Genzlinger, Tom Gerner, Mike Glod, James Goodwin, Frank Grischbowski, Tracy Gryger, Rick Hamilton, Damon Hartman, Peter Hebert, Linda Hollingdale, Brad Jackson, Kevin Jenness, Eddie Krasnow, Joe Laferriere, Ted Lattrell, Luc Lefebvre, Kevin Liddiard, Lucinda Love, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Gerry Martin, Ross Mitchel, Justin Morande, Kevin Murdough, Ted Nelson, William Nestork, Elsa Oppenheimer, Mickey Palmer, Mike Papin, Jeff Petter, Harvie Porter, Randy Ramsden, Brian Reed, John Reilly, Larry Rice, Barent Rogers, Sam Sanderson, Robert Schumacher, David Scrase, Edwards Smith, Cil Spahn, Marilyn Stolberg, Adam Wager, Gary Walz, Mike Washburn, Larry Waters, Bob Zelif (76)

(Scott Bennett, Russ Fellows, Ted Fink, Dick Montague, Michael Mode, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith, Arny Spahn and Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members, (9)

If you have paid your dues for the year but do not see your name listed here please contact me to correct that error of omission.

[BradJackson234@gmail.com](mailto:BradJackson234@gmail.com)

Dues for 2022 are \$25. Checks should be made out to "WTNV" and sent to: Brad Jackson, 14 Rustic Drive, Essex, VT 05452

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members: Video library use, mentoring program, bulk purchase discounts for CA glue, Anchor Seal, Klingspor, Hartville Tool, & Penn State Industries discount of 10%, (to remain on the discount lists dues must be paid by April 1<sup>st</sup> each year). Mention the club to get your discount. PSI and Klingspor request you login **before** you order anything to ensure your discount.

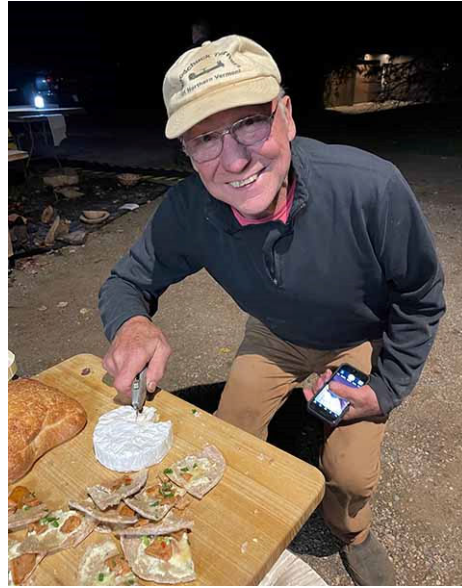


(Continued from page 1)

Dave B. demonstrated setting up and using the Ellsworth jig for the Ellsworth bowl gouge grind.

Tom Dunne showed how to sharpen the carbide tip of the One-way coring system.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Army Spahn



Russ used a box cutter to spread some cheese.



Karen Wilson shows some bowls.



Jay opens the meeting and announces the new Board.



Elsa cut coves for the first time in a bowl.



Brad Blaisdell and a big, epoxy filled bowl

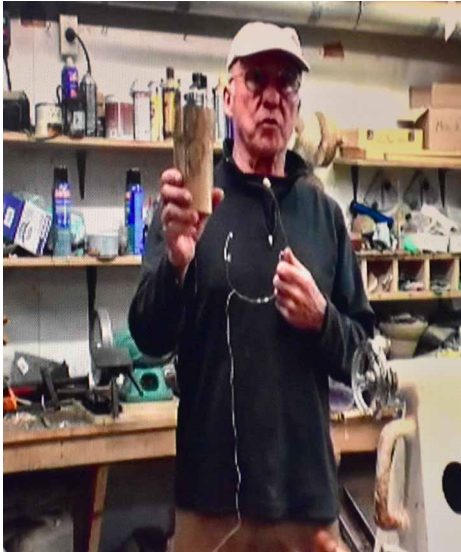


Dave shows his composite bowls.



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Black Locust on a mug.



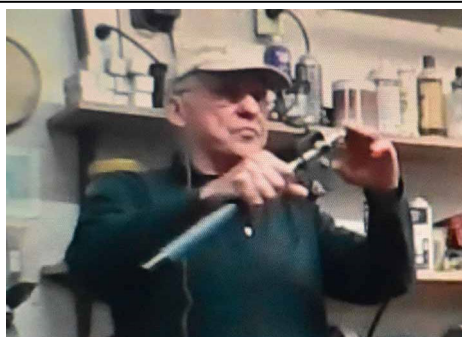
There is amazing color and figure in some root stock—here, Tom shows Yew.



Russ talks about setting up a gouge for sharpening with the Oneway jig system. Use a depth block to set the jig onto the gouge. The setting block should be 1-5/8" to 2" deep. The angle of the jig's leg will vary the amount of sweep on the cutting edge.



Tom uses a simple wood block to set the distance between the wheel & the jig foot.



Russ sets the distance by eye.



Andy asks about the setting for a spindle gouge.

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Russ explains the spindle roughing gouge. The blade should be straight across. It can be sharpened using the Oneway jig and rotating it evenly, spinning it using the heel as the focal point or use the flat rest set at the proper angle. Either way, grind a smooth bevel from ear to ear of the tool.



This is a gauge with many of the angles needed to set the geometry of the tool rest on the grinder and other needed angles.



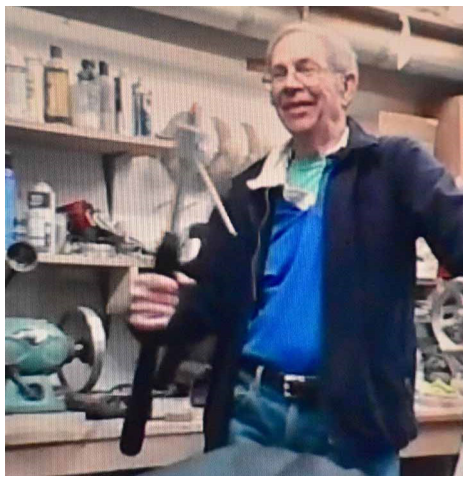
The flat grinder tool rest is a versatile tool for many sharpening tasks.



The spindle gouge can be ground using the identical settings as the bowl gouge.



Dave uses a simple, portable gauge to set the length of his Ellsworth bowl gouge. It has holes drilled to 1-5/8" and 2" with a penny glued at the bottom.



The Ellsworth jig gives a single repeatable grind to the gouge.



Here, Dave demonstrates sharpening the gouge using the Ellsworth jig and the Oneway Wolverine fixture.

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Gary Walz, Secretary

**Woodchuck Board Meeting Minutes – 02-Nov-2021**

**Attendees:**

- Jay Bailey
- Gary Walz
- Harvie Porter
- Andy Duling
- Army Spahn
- Bob Martin
- Tom Dunne
- Dave Buchholz
- Brad Jackson

**Treasurer’s Report (Brad J):**

We currently have 78 paid members. Account Balance is \$ 4457.42

Discussed needing to take over Zoom payments from Jay. Jay’s suggestion is that we should have a yearly agreement due to pricing. Harvie suggested that we most likely should keep a hybrid format to our meetings anyways due to the distance some members live. Note that there was no definitive action item assigned for this.

Agreed we should keep \$ 25 in petty cash on hand.

Army will send his draft Chatter to Brad so Brad can take it to the bank to get authorized on the checking account.

**Future Meeting Topics:**

Harvie suggested that we keep meetings as hybrids going forward. In addition to ongoing COVID issues, we have a number of members who are scattered and can stay better connected if meetings were also offered as hybrids.

**November:**

The session on finishes done by Mickey Palmer a few years ago

went over well, and it was agreed to contact him again to see if he would lead this session. In addition, we will ask all members to share their favorite finishes and techniques.

**December:**

No December meeting or party this year.

**January:**

Topic will be review of new tools, toys, etc. members have, in addition to “What I learned last year.” Tom suggested a general equipment discussion to get us started.

Tom also suggested we add a “Tool Exchange” to Chatter. There is already a for sale section we can add to for this.

**February:**

Tom volunteered to do a demo. Exact topic TBD.

**March:**

“Getting Started in Turning”. Will need more details as we get closer.

**April:**

We will see if we can share a meeting with Russ.

**Other Business:**

Jay will send out a poll looking to:  
Get a better handle on what type of turners we currently have in the club,  
See what members want to see for demos

Harvie will contact Eddie to see what the story is with regard to the availability of CVU

Jay told us going forward he will help with the zoom set up. It definitely needs some proactive work making sure the equipment is setup for the meeting in advance properly, we have people to run the cameras, etc.

Andy reminded us that the club owns a small lathe for demos, etc. A discussion was held on the possibility of the club setting up a mobile lathe for demos.

We need to keep this on the radar and formulate an action plan going forward.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gary Walz, Secretary



Harvie Porter, President



The new Board met by ZOOM.





“AND FROM SKUNK HOLLOW SOUTH”

It was late afternoon, Monday, November 1st, when I backed my truck into the garage to unload. My stop in Tallahassee for the weekend to visit some old friends made it a longer trip than usual, but the pace was comfortable, and the back roads, vs. the Interstates, actually made it enjoyable! As long as you stay away from the craziness and congestion of the cities, a road trip through small town America can be most pleasant!

The next morning it was back to woodchuck business as usual at our log yard. After being away, I never know what will be there waiting for processing. This time, a giant bischofia, or, as it is locally called, bishopswood. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bischofia\\_javanica?wprov=sftii](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bischofia_javanica?wprov=sftii))! As with most of the trees we get in Florida, it is classified as an invasive species.



But because all these “nuisance” trees do provide shade and landscaping, they are normally only cut down when they threaten buildings or power lines. Or alas, get in the way of developers! In reading over this Wikipedia description,

I was surprised to see that it has edible fruit and leaves, and the roots are used medicinally! We only cut it up and make bowls! I was curious? I know I have used it before, but never so dripping wet, which it certainly was! The sap was flying as I cut and turned, producing a lovely dark red color. My recollection though, is that the color fades quite a bit as it dries. I left the walls thick and stuck it in a bin of silica beads to keep it, I hope!, from cracking, I will report back next month! There was as usual, also a fresh pile of Norfolk Island pine, but really the big job that day was going through the stacks of old stuff that had gone past its prime. Yes, that pile of stuff that looks like a Vermonter’s stash of firewood for the winter, IS firewood! In this case though, it is only headed for the burn barrels! Much/most of it had gotten punky, but it is always tempting to rummage through this pile, and I always toss a few pieces in the truck to add to my overflowing inventory!



And speaking of inventory, when I left last week, there were still some cherry blocks behind my shop in Jericho. Don’t hesitate to come get a few more. I have alerted my house sitters that there might be a Woodchuck or two sneaking in to grab some!

And finally, a big thanks to all who helped out this past summer! Coming to meetings, coming to Sawdust, helping Karen sort through Brad Dinwid-



die’s shop, etc., etc. All your support is much appreciated, and I look forward to another year! My plan is to be back in Vermont about May 1st, which means the first Sawdust Session will be Wednesday, May 5th, and the first Skunk Hollow club meeting will be Wednesday, May 19th. That’s a long way off, but there will be notices in Chatter as we get a little closer.

And NOW, finally, a HUGE “shout out” to our stalwart “Chatter”



editors for the last 19 years!! Arny and Cil Spahn have faithfully provided our club with this wonderful forum for all our club activities and there are no adequate words to express how lucky we have been, what a fabulous job they have done, and how grateful we are for their efforts!! We wish them all the best in their retirement, and all I can say to Andy Duling, who will be taking over, you have been handed a big baton and have huge “shoes” to fill! Arny and Cil... THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! We love you!

Russ Fellows  
Sarasota, FL



This last year has been a challenge for the Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont. We were delighted to have been awarded an AAW grant in the spring of this year. The grant of \$1000 along with \$250 of the club's funds was seen as a shot in the arm to get us up to speed with having remote meetings and demonstrations which were necessary to keep the club functioning during the periods of pandemic related isolation. Our goal was to obtain the new equipment to use Zoom and the OBS software to hold club meetings remotely and also to have remote interactive demonstrations. We have succeeded in increasing club membership to 84 which is the largest we have ever had. We now have members from as far away as about 100 miles. Our club normally meets in a local high school from November to May and then in a member's shop from May to October. This year the high school was not available so we were remote until May when we started the upgrade to the member's shop. The internet connection was inadequate so the member upgraded his internet service for the club. The wi-fi coverage in his shop was also inadequate so an ethernet cable and a mesh signal booster were purchased. We relied on our connection to the Sarasota Woodturners for technical help in getting the OBS software operational. As of our last meeting in October 2021 we are partly there. We are using the cameras, monitors, microphone, and cabling for an expanded Zoom session. We have not yet mastered the powers of OBS. This is still a project in progress. We purchased all items in the original budget except for the tripod and laptop with software. The necessary upgrade for wi-fi coverage of the shop area added about \$300. The club has spent \$1245.55 for the equipment which is almost the \$1250 committed. We are still relying on member contributions for the tripod and computer. As we become more proficient with OBS, we will reconsider using additional club resources to purchase these items. We have made significant progress with our goal to modernize the club, but still have some work to do. The pandemic has shown us that we must remain flexible to the changing environment. We have started to discuss how we can deal with the limits of available locations for club meetings. We will probably have to expand the club's turning equipment and make it portable. We want to capitalize on our club's increased membership in ways that realize the very large physical rural area we cover.

Actual Budget

Quantity	item	cost	total
1	green screen	28.73	28.73
2	video capture card	20.13	40.26
1	wireless remote control	62.53	62.53
1	7 port hub	37.09	37.09
1	headset USB wireless	105.99	105.99
1	HDMI ext. cable	8.99	18.99
1	HDMI splitter cable	11.60	11.60
2	Sony Camcorder 2	01.39	402.78
2	17" HDMI LED monitor	89.03	178.06
1	ethernet cable	44.40	44.40
1	Mesh Wi-Fi system	294.99	294.99
1	outdoor HDMI extension cable	20.13	20.13
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1245.50</b>

- 1) Lathrop Maple Supply, Hewitt Rd, Bristol, Vermont, 802-453-2897. With a newly expanded inventory area, Tom has a fantastic supply of local and imported wood. His new division, "Exclusively Vermont, LLC, specializes in high quality Vermont lumber and mill products and FSC stock is available.
- 2) Hayley Wood Products in Colchester. (<http://www.hayleywoodproducts.com/>).
- 3) Sutherland Welles Ltd., No. Hyde Park, VT, 800-322-1245. ([www.sutherlandwelles.com](http://www.sutherlandwelles.com)). Right here in our own back yard, they make the best Tung oil products in the U S. Call with an order and it goes out the same day!
- 4) Johnson Lumber, Route 116 in Bristol, VT. 802-453-4884. Another good "local" source for hardwood lumber of all kinds.
- 5) [www.exoticwoodsusa.com](http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com). They offer a 15% discount to any member of an AAW chapter. Type in 'exoticwoodsusaaw' in the coupon code box.
- 6) Griffin Exotic Woods These folks came up in a search for something else, and I ended up buying a couple things from them. Their prices were fair and the service was good. <http://www.exoticwood.biz/>
- 7) Sinclair Mill Works in North Danville VT <http://www.sinclairmillworks.com/home.htm>. 802-748-0948. He specializes in figure Vermont species. His prices are very reasonable.
- 8) Mike Jackofsky—hollowing tools. [www.mikejackofsky.com](http://www.mikejackofsky.com). Also sells thru Craft Supply.
- 9) Business cards and other printed goods: [Vistaprint.com](http://Vistaprint.com)
- 10) Laser engraving—Maple Land Mark Woodcraft. 800-421-4223 They are in Middlebury. [www.maplelandmark.com](http://www.maplelandmark.com)
- 11) Les Dougherty & Susan Curington Owners, North Woods Figured Wood North Woods,, LLC PO Box 808 Forest Grove OR 97116 [800-556-3106](tel:800-556-3106), [503-357-9953](tel:503-357-9953) [www.nwfiguredwoods.com](http://www.nwfiguredwoods.com) offers lifetime 15% discount on any website wood purchase. Use "WOODTURNERS" coupon code at checkout. [www.nwfiguredwoods.com](http://www.nwfiguredwoods.com)
- 12) Paw Prints Printing [WWW.paw-prints.com](http://WWW.paw-prints.com) 802 865 2872 Gregory Drive South Burlington, VT 05403
- 13) Your NEW colored plywood source. [trethaway@comcast.net](mailto:trethaway@comcast.net). Has scraps of colored plywood for resale. Listed on eBay as scratch101012. **(That's an email address. Try it.)**
- 14) The Tree House, hardwoods & mill shop. Native woods, priced from \$5.00. 1891 Williston Rd., 802-497-3530. [www.treehousehardwoods.com](http://www.treehousehardwoods.com)
- 15) Suffolk Saw of New England, Jeff & Danielle Mellott; 33 Gaudet Dr., Belmont, NH, 03220 877-550-7297



**Classified Ads:  
Items For Sale**

**Want Ads**  
**Mentors Wanted**  
**Share your Skills**

**Beginning wood turner looking for his first lathe.**  
**Would consider most anything except for reeves drive style variable speed.**  
**Belt change models are fine.**  
**Any leads greatly appreciated.**  
**Randy - [r Ramsden@gmavt.net](mailto:r Ramsden@gmavt.net)**

**Woodchuck Mentors**

*These Woodchucks are able and willing to help other Woodchucks wanting some hands-on instruction.*

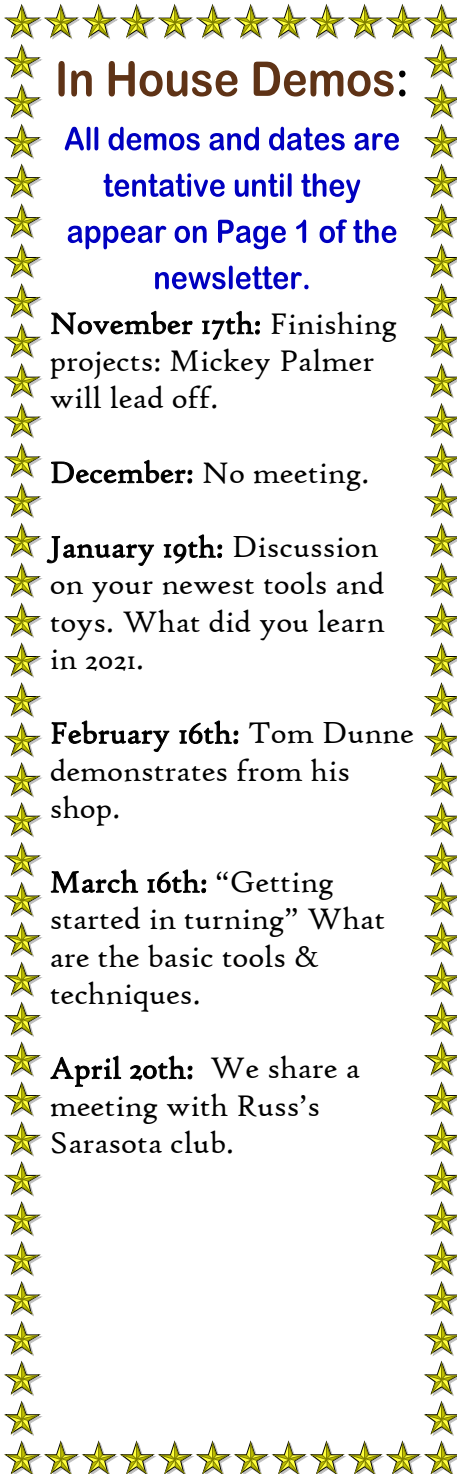
**Dick Montague: General turning, all aspects plus tool sharpening.**  
**802-584-3486**  
**[Montagueturn@gmail.com](mailto:Montagueturn@gmail.com)**  
**Groton**

**Russ Fellows: General, segmented, & multi-axis turning**  
**802-899-3059**  
**[skunkmen@gmail.com](mailto:skunkmen@gmail.com)**  
**Jericho**

**Ted Beebe: Segmented work.**  
**802-849-2436**  
**[Teddy.beebe@gmail.com](mailto:Teddy.beebe@gmail.com)**  
**Fletcher**

**Tom Dunne: Hollow turning, etc.**  
**802-388-6981**  
**[jthomasdunne@gmail.com](mailto:jthomasdunne@gmail.com)**  
**Middlebury**

**Dave Buchholz**  
**General turning; advanced embellishments**  
**518 834 9524**  
**[dbuchholz@northwestern.edu](mailto:dbuchholz@northwestern.edu)**  
**Keeseville, NY**



**In House Demos:**

**All demos and dates are tentative until they appear on Page 1 of the newsletter.**

**November 17th:** Finishing projects: Mickey Palmer will lead off.

**December:** No meeting.

**January 19th:** Discussion on your newest tools and toys. What did you learn in 2021.

**February 16th:** Tom Dunne demonstrates from his shop.

**March 16th:** "Getting started in turning" What are the basic tools & techniques.

**April 20th:** We share a meeting with Russ's Sarasota club.

**Instructors For Hire**

**Nick Rosato**  
**802-999-2976**  
**[nickrosato@gmail.com](mailto:nickrosato@gmail.com)**

Once and twice turned bowls  
Coring with the Oneway Coring system  
Understanding and using gouges  
Spindle turning and duplication  
Hollow Turning  
One-on-one instruction at my shop or your shop. Flexible scheduling. \$250 half day. \$400 full day.

**WTNV Liability Insurance**

**Liability Insurance Policy**

As of April 2013 we are covered by a liability policy with the following limits:

- Each occurrence: 2M; Damage to rented premises: 1M; Med expenses: 10K;
- Personal injury: 2M; General aggregate: 4M;
- Products aggregate: 4M.

The Hartford; Agent; Michael George: (317) 735 4072; [mgeorge@amj\\_ins.com](mailto:mgeorge@amj_ins.com)

This policy covers all members at all WTNV events.

If you are demonstrating, this policy will not cover any claim if you are being compensated either by commission or sale of your turnings. In other words, this does not